

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 00685 271009Z

17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /027 W

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R 270728Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4989

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: EAID, LT, OGEN

SUBJECT: TRANSMISSION OF LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT FORD

1. AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN GIVEN LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT FORD. TEXT QUOTED BELOW. LETTER BEING POUCHED AF/S.

2. BEGIN LETTER QUOTE: HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT G. FORD, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D.C., UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, I RECENTLY HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING THE REVEREND DR. LEON SULLIVAN, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTRES OF AMERICA, WHEN HE PAID A THREE-DAY FAMILIARIZATION VISIT TO MY COUNTRY.

I AND MY CABINET COLLEAGUES, AND THE OFFICIALS IN OUR DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, WERE GREATLY IMPRESSED NOT ONLY WITH DR. SULLIVAN'S SINCERITY AND ENTHUSIASM BUT ALSO WITH THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF HIS ORGANIZATION WHICH, IN OUR OPINION, IS RELEVANT TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. AS DR. SULLIVAN SO ELOQUENTLY POINTED OUT, THE NEED IN EMERGING SOCIETIES IS FOR MANAGERIAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS TO SUPPLEMENT THE EFFORTS OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

OUR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PLACES HIGH PRIORITY AND EMPHASIS  
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ON THE RURAL SECTOR. IT IS OUR WISH AND INTENTION TO IMPROVE

THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MAJORITY OF OUR PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN SMALL VILLAGES. TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, WE HAVE TO TRAIN OUR PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES WITHIN THEIR LIMITED MEANS. THIS TYPE OF TRAINING WILL NOT ONLY BENEFIT OUR PEOPLE LOCALLY BUT WILL IN ADDITION, PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SKILLS FOR THOSE WHO GO TO WORK IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THUS ENABLE THEM TO BRING MORE REVENUE INTO THEIR COUNTRY. THIS WE FEEL, COULD BE ACCHIEVED THROUGH THE KIND OF PROGRAMME RUN BY OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION VENTRES.

WITH A VIEW TO STARTING THIS PROGRAMME AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE DR. SULLIVAN PROMISED ME THAT HE WOULD SEND A MISSION TO LESOTHO TO DO A FEASIBILITY STUDY IN AUGUST THIS YEAR. I APPEAL TO YOU, MR. PRESEIDENT, TO USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO SEE THAT THIS PROMISE IS FULFILLED, AND THE OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTRES PLAN IS IMPLEMENTED IN OUR COUNTRY.

THE NEED FOR THIS PROGRAM, WAS BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION BY DR. SULLIVAN, CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL DROP-OUTS WHO, FOR VARIOUS REASONS BEYOND THEIR CONTROL (INCLUDING THE POVERTY OF THEIR PARENTS), CANNOT PROCEED TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND MUST THEREFORE BE PROVIDED WITH PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

AS WE ARE A SMALL, COMPACT COUNTRY WITHOUT TRIBAL OR LINGUISTIC PROBLEMS, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PREPARE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PACKAGE DEAL COVERING DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN SEVERAL FIELDS. SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT, I BELIEVE, WOULD NOT ONLY BENEFIT THE PARTICIPANTS BUT WOULD ALSO GREATLY STRENGTHEN THE HAPPY AND CORDIAL RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, MY SINCERE WISHES FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL BEING AND THE PROSPERITY OF YOUR GREAT NATION, SINCERELY, LEABUA JONATHAN, PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO. UNQUOTE END LETTER.  
BOLEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** EAID, OGEN, LT, (JONATHAN, LEABUA), (FORD, GERALD R), (SULLIVAN, LEON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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